



Boulder  
County  
Chapter

# Newsletter

March 2006

## DOC Boulder Laboratories Observe Black History Month



Wilford Buggs, Boulder County Chapter president, presents a plaque to Dr. Doris Sartor, keynote speaker for the Black History Month program at the DOC Boulder Research laboratories on February 24, 2006.

Dr. Doris Sartor's talk was capped with a standing ovation at the David Skaggs Research Center in Boulder, Colorado as the Blacks In Government chapters from Boulder and Downtown Denver joined efforts to host activities for Black History Month. The theme for this year's program was, *Our Future is in Today's Youth*. This timely topic was well received and sparked lively discussion on the need to focus on our youth.

Dr. Doris Sartor is the Executive Course Director for the Air Force GS-15 Leadership Seminar at the College for Professional Development at Maxwell Air Force Base in Montgomery, Alabama. She is also the National Executive Vice President for Blacks In Government.

Dr. Sartor began her talk by giving thanks to God. She acknowledged Blacks In Government members attending the program and the senior management officials from Denver and Boulder.

Special thanks was given to Michelle Blackmon, Region 8 Director, for her proactive leadership. Dr. Sartor gave special recognition to Gary Blackmon for setting the standard for integrity and excellence for the board of directors of BIG. She gave special thanks to Richard Shields, the national third vice president of BIG, and said he was a champion for youth and was always available to solve problems. She emphasized that Region 8 had outstanding leaders. She congratulated Wilford Buggs, Boulder County Chapter president, and Rodney Whetstone, president of the Denver Downtown Chapter of BIG, for their collaborative efforts for the Black History Month program.

## DOC Boulder Laboratories Observe Black History Month (continued from page 1)

Focusing on her topic, Dr. Sartor stressed, “Reach one, teach one” in regard to our youth. She said that youth had to understand the past to be successful in the future. Leadership should be taught early.

Dr. Sartor presented seven qualities for all leaders to consider to ensure our future:

1. Trustworthy. Leaders should walk the talk and be confident to stand alone.
2. Surround yourself with excellence. Keep competent people around you.
3. Prepared and Persistent. Answer the call to action and never give up.
4. Competent and Positive Attitude.
5. Tolerance. Remain calm and composed to a main purpose or goal.
6. Committed to excellence. Leaders should do their homework early.
7. Sense of purpose. Leaders should have a desire to make a contribution.

Dr. Sartor stressed that one did not have to be Black to be a member of BIG. She said everyone was a potential member.

In an audience participation exercise, everyone stood up and the BIG covenant was recited by all in attendance.

Dr. Sartor closed with the Garden of Leadership championed by Darleen Young, the National President of BIG:

- Plant four rows of peas—Prayer, Providence, Preparation, Patience.
- Four rows of squash—squash gossip, indifference, criticism, negative thinking.

- Four rows of turnips— turn up for tough jobs, for what is right, turn up leadership skills, and a determination to be a better person.

In the question and answer portion of the program, Dr. Sartor asked what BIG could do to help agencies.

In his closing remarks, Dr. Tom O’Brian, Division Chief, for the NIST Time and Frequency Division stated that he was humbled and inspired by Dr. Sartor’s message.



Richard Shields briefing agency directors from Boulder and Denver on attending the NTC in New York this August.

Prior to Dr. Sartor’s talk, BIG hosted an appreciation meeting for agency directors. Byron Louis opened the program. Derik Love from the Boulder County Chapter and Renee Booker from the Downtown Denver Chapter presented chapter highlights. In response to a question on Katrina by Dr. Tom Casadevall, USGS, Richard Shields, Dr. Sartor, Michelle Blackmon and Gary Blackmon, Rodney Whetstone, and Wilford Buggs presented information on what efforts their chapters had taken.



## Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration in Boulder, Colorado

### ACTIVITIES IN BOULDER ON JANUARY 16TH INCLUDED:

- A march and rally at the Boulder County Courthouse. Featured were African drumming by the Logo Ligi-Mensah Brothers and the McTeggart Dancers.
- Lunch was provided at Boulder High School.
- MC Brandon Carter introduced featured entertainers: singer Sue Schnitzer; storyteller Hugo John Sayles; and Vox Feminista.
- Teach-ins included Bob Kessler on community policing; Institute for African American Leadership; Michelle Miles, on The Forgotten Women of Boulder; Children, Youth and Families Mediation on communicating with bullies.
- Keynote address by Mike Miles, educator and former candidate for the U.S. Senate.
- Teach-ins including: Families with Diversity; Free Speech TV, Taking Back the Media; Ira Chernus; Mothers Acting Up, A Rehearsal for Acting Up.
- Entertainment featuring Hip Hop Coalition and Dancers and the Umojag Gospel Choir.
- A Human Rights Fair capped the day. **(NOTE: PLEASE SEE PAGE 4 FOR PICTURES.)**

## MLK Observance Sponsored by the Denver Federal Executive Board



ABOVE LEFT: Dan Archuleta; Richard Shields; Genola and Daniel Smith. RIGHT: Keynote Speaker, B.D. Wong, Star of *Law and Order: Special Victim's Unit*.



BELOW LEFT: Carol Schulz and Susan Sutherland.

BELOW RIGHT: Viola Nathan, Robin Wolf, Joan Tomek, Carol.





## Chapter Highlights

### BIG members celebrate holiday for Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



LEFT: Torch passing ceremony at the Boulder Municipal Building. This torch passing ceremony is repeated throughout the state and the nation.

LEFT OF TORCH: Mayor Mark Ruzzin, mayor of Boulder.

RIGHT OF TORCH: with city council members is Ms. Sandra Mann who gave the MLK speech to open the observance. City council members attended the opening as well as members of the I Have a Dream Foundation.

RIGHT: Rally/march at the Boulder County Courthouse on the Pearl Street Mall. This part of the MLK program was organized by Boulder County Blacks In Government member and Second Vice President, Rayford Stewart. Joining him in organizing the rally and march was the Youth Advisory Board of Boulder, Colorado—Emily Schulz, Sara Goodman, and Mallory Hight.



LEFT: Students from the University of Colorado who form the gospel group, Umojag.

The students played a significant role in the MLK program, and delighted the audience with inspirational renditions from traditional gospel songs.

Umojag's impact was quite evident from the audience participation which created a festive closing to the day's activities.

The program was a community day, with persons from all the the county participating.

## National Events

- Waverly Person, Mr. Earthquake, retired on February 3, 2006, after 51 years of tracking earthquakes around the world for the National Earthquake Information Center in Golden, Colorado. He is believed to be the first African American earthquake seismologist. Person started his career with the U.S. Department of Commerce in Washington, D.C. in 1955 when DOC headed the government's seismic monitoring. In 1973, responsibility for the Earthquake Center transferred to the U.S. Geological Survey in Golden. **BIG congratulates Waverly Person for his outstanding career as a scientist and role model!**
- BIG joins the nation in grieving the loss of Mrs. Coretta Scott King, the First Lady of the Civil Rights Movement. Please see page 8 for a message from the NOAA Administrator.
- Register now for the BIG National Training Conference which will be held in New York this year. Get information at [www. Bignet.org](http://www.Bignet.org).
- Welcome back to Boulder County BIG member, Chet Madej, who has returned from volunteering for the Katrina disaster in New Orleans. More information to follow.

### BOULDER EVENTS

February 13—11:00 to 1:00 p.m. at DSRC. Meeting to finalize plans for Black History Month program and the agency directors appreciation meeting.

Women's History Month will be celebrated at the DSRC in Boulder on March 21st. The speaker will be Susan Frontczak who will speak on Marie Currie. Please make plans to attend this important talk on a woman in science.

The Boulder Valley School District is hosting their African American Leadership Institute on April 27th. More information on the Leadership Institute will be sent to members via e-mail.

### IMPORTANT DATES

**Delegates to the Blacks In Government National Training Conference in New York should make early plans to attend from 19 –26 August so they can participate in all the delegate voting activities and participate in the NTC.**

---

The great baseball player Satchel Paige said:

***"It's not what you don't know that gets you into trouble, it's what you know that just ain't so that gets you into trouble."***

## Goals and Objectives

- Serve as an advocate for equal employment opportunities and conditions that affect its members (hires, promotions and retentions).
- Promote the professional development of BIG members at all levels of employment in the Boulder area.
- Maintain a liaison with government agencies which have established BIG chapters and assist those interested in starting new chapters.
- Provide for the completion, synthesis and dissemination of information on issues of concerns to BIG members, such as job vacancies and training opportunities.
- Serve as a forum for addressing issues that have an impact upon its members so that they may better know and express their views on matters which affect them.
- Enhance the promotion of ethnic pride with socio-economic, civic and cultural programs, and fellowship, to unite Blacks and other government employees
- Work toward the elimination of racism in government agencies.

## Officers and Members

- President: Wilford Buggs, Retired from NOAA/MASC
- 1st Vice President: Richard Shields, USGS
- 2nd Vice President: Ray Stewart, NOAA Boulder Building Mgmt
- Secretary: Derik Love, NIST Post Doc.
- Treasurer: Byron Louis, NOAA/ NWS
- Parliamentarian: Katy Stewart, NOAA Research

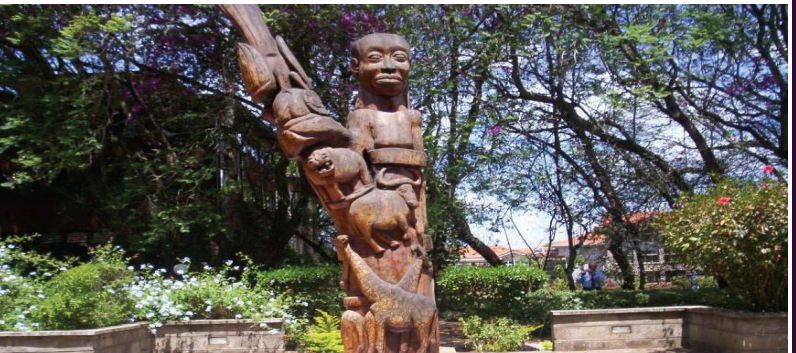


Front Row: Becky Rios, Byron Louis (Treasurer), Georgia Madrid, Henry Guilford, Wilford Buggs (President)  
Back Row: Tony Tafoya, Chet Madej, Katy Stewart (Parliamentarian), Ray Stewart (2nd Vice President) Carol Werner, Derik Love (Secretary), Richard Shields (1st Vice President and National 3rd Vice President)



## Boulder County Blacks In Government Chapter Highlights

Wilford Buggs recently returned from Nairobi, Kenya where he took the following pictures of his adventure in Africa. While there, Wilford and his wife Inez, were the special guests of Dr. George Jones at the U.S. International University's Black History Month program. Wilford was introduced as the president of the Boulder County Chapter of BIG, USA.



TOP LEFT: Wilford and Robert in front of housing tent during a safari outing.

TOP RIGHT: Carved statue of the USIU mascot.

MIDDLE LEFT: Shanty dwellings in Nairobi.

MIDDLE RIGHT: Dr. George Jones, Special Assistant to the Vice Chancellor for International Affairs, for the U.S. International University (USIU). Dr. Jones and his wife Carol were the hosts for Wilford and Inez Buggs during their trip to Kenya.

BOTTOM LEFT: Carol J. Jones, USIU Training Coordinator.

## MESSAGE FROM THE NOAA UNDER SECRETARY

Subject:  
National African American History Month Celebrates Community  
From:  
"VADM Conrad C. Lautenbacher Jr., USN (Ret.)" <Announcement@noaa.gov>  
Date:  
Fri, 03 Feb 2006 13:02:08 -0500

Message From the Under Secretary

February 3, 2006



It is especially sad that Coretta Scott King, an icon of national African American history, died Monday, just as this year's National African American History Month was set to begin. Committed to continuing the march after the tragic assassination of Dr. King, his young widow never missed a beat, despite her Dr. Martin Luther King and Coretta Scott King - photos credit the King Center personal heartache and the challenges of raising their four young children. As a pillar of recent African American history in the U.S., Mrs. King steadfastly carried the message of non-violent social change across the United States and around the globe. As another icon, Maya Angelou, said this week, "She left so much behind. We have inherited so much from her."

As Mrs. King and other pillars of African American History are honored this month, I encourage all of you to join in community celebrations and draw on the lessons of many proud legacies. Much is being taught about a heritage that has helped shape us all, and the struggle for equality and diversity that is so vital to a vibrant workplace and community is a continuing one. To keep the dream alive, there is still much to learn.

The theme of this year's month-long national tribute, "Celebrating Community: A Tribute to Black Fraternal, Social, and Civic Institutions," has particular significance right here within our NOAA community. Everyone who has helped establish, sustain and leverage the accomplishments of NOAA's chapter of Blacks in Government (BIG) merits our heartfelt thanks.

With a strategic plan to advance both NOAA BIG and the group's national civil rights, educational and other goals, our employees formed the African American Workers Task Force, a fact-finding body and advocacy group. Last year NOAA BIG doubled its membership. Here's a glimpse of its excellent work:

In reaching out to both NOAA and the broader community, BIG generated scholarships for four outstanding high school seniors, each of whom indicated a desire to major in a NOAA-related discipline. NOAA's BIG chapter also sponsors an annual Send-Your-Child-To-Camp program, enabling the children of NOAA employees to enjoy summer camp. Every year BIG conducts a Thanksgiving Food Drive, generating business and employee contributions to provide a complete holiday meal for about 50 families in need. In December, there is a toy drive, a testament to the commitment of BIG and the generosity of other NOAA employees as well. Each year in February, there are Black History Month celebrations and educational programs that are informative, entertaining and often prepared by local African American caterers.

As Dr. Bernard A. Harris, Jr., the first African American to walk in space, said at NOAA's celebration yesterday in Silver Spring, "Today's dreams can be tomorrow's reality."

The enduring legacy of African Americans continues to flourish with each new generation -- and the fine work within our NOAA community is definitely one point of light! Thank you.  
[www.noaabig.org](http://www.noaabig.org)

conrad lautenbacher signature  
Conrad C. Lautenbacher, Jr.  
Vice Admiral, U.S. Navy (Ret.)  
Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere and NOAA Administrator

---



## Boulder Labs Diversity Council is a proud supporter of the Boulder County Chapter of Blacks in Government



# NIST



The Boulder Labs Diversity Council is composed of volunteer members from three U.S. Department of Commerce agencies: NIST (National Institute of Standards and Technology), NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration), and NTIA (National Telecommunications and Information Administration). Our mission is to create a unified work environment where all employees are respected and valued for their contributions. For Boulder laboratories employment opportunities, visit our website [www.masc.noaa.gov](http://www.masc.noaa.gov) and then click or select "Employment." The U.S. Department of Commerce is an Equal Opportunity Employer.



*"supporting diverse groups through awareness of workforce and cultural diversity..."*

Visit us at <http://bldc.blrdoc.gov>



**Boulder County BIG Chapter – Region VIII**  
6798 Paiute Ave  
Longmont, CO 80503  
303-652-2554  
[wwbuggs@aol.com](mailto:wwbuggs@aol.com)

## Membership Application Form

### Applicant Information (please print or type)

Name	
Home Address	
City, State, Zip Code	
Employer Name	
Work Address	
City, State, Zip Code	
Telephone (business)	
Telephone (Home)	
Fax	
E-Mail	

### Membership Information #3-06

Type of Membership: New \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_\_ Federal \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Local/County \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

***Membership Dues are \$55.00 (\$35 National and \$20.00 local chapter).***

Boulder County BIG Chapter  
6798 Paiute Avenue  
Longmont, CO 80503